

NEW TRUCE TERMS CRIPPLE GERMANY

(Continued from First Page.)

circulated in certain French circles late yesterday that the Americans and British had agreed to the plan for such an international police force. It can be stated that the highest authority that the report is unfounded.

First Plan Modified.
Another report said that France had modified its original plan to favor of a military board which would direct any necessary martial operations by the league. This board, which would replace the proposed international army and navy, would keep in touch with political developments and draw upon the nearest available troops or fleet to throw a protective screen about a threatened nation.

The President devoted most of his time to official business today. In addition to presiding at the league committee meeting he was to receive a special representative from the Belgian government and formally express his regret that he would be unable to visit Belgium this trip, with the hope that he could do so on his next European journey.

NEW ARMISTICE TERMS WILL LESSEN ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON GERMANY

PARIS, Feb. 13.—Conditions for renewal of the armistice, which were agreed upon by the supreme war council yesterday evening, were believed today to include lessening of the economic pressure and strengthening of the military pressure on Germany.

While further restrictive measures are expected to be imposed to insure the Germans carrying out provisions already enacted which they are alleged to be evading, it is understood the enemy will be aided in stabilizing internal conditions through modification of the blockade restrictions. The new terms will not be made public, however, until they are presented to the Germans at Treves.

The new terms, it is reported, embrace what will ultimately be an important part of the actual peace treaty.

ESTHONIA AND LETVIA SEEK VOICE AT PARLEY

PARIS, Feb. 13.—Two more factional governments in Russia—the Esthonian and the Lettish—today notified the peace conference that they would send delegates to take part in the Russo-Ally parley on Princes' Island, in the Sea of Marmora.

The offer of the Lettish government to send three delegates is conditional upon the withdrawal of armed forces (Bolsheviks) from Letovia.

Esthonia, in a communication to the conference, points out that this state has declared its independence from Russia and has been recognized by some of the allied governments and therefore asks representation in the peace conference.

STRIKES SPREADING THROUGH ROUMANIA

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 13.—A revolutionary demonstration was suppressed by troops in Bucharest, it was reported in a Berlin dispatch received by the Tidende today.

The dispatch said that crowds attempted to storm King Ferdinand's motor car, shouting "hurrah for the republic and the revolutionary proletariat." Troops pressed around the king and forced the people back.

Strikes are spreading throughout Rumania, according to the dispatch, and industries are seriously handicapped.

LYDECKER ON CARPET

Charles D. Lydecker, president of the National Security League, has been subpoenaed to appear tomorrow before the special House committee investigating pre-election activities of the league, to explain a letter he wrote to Chairman Johnson complaining that the organization was being prevented from attending hearings of the committee and from offering rebuttal testimony.

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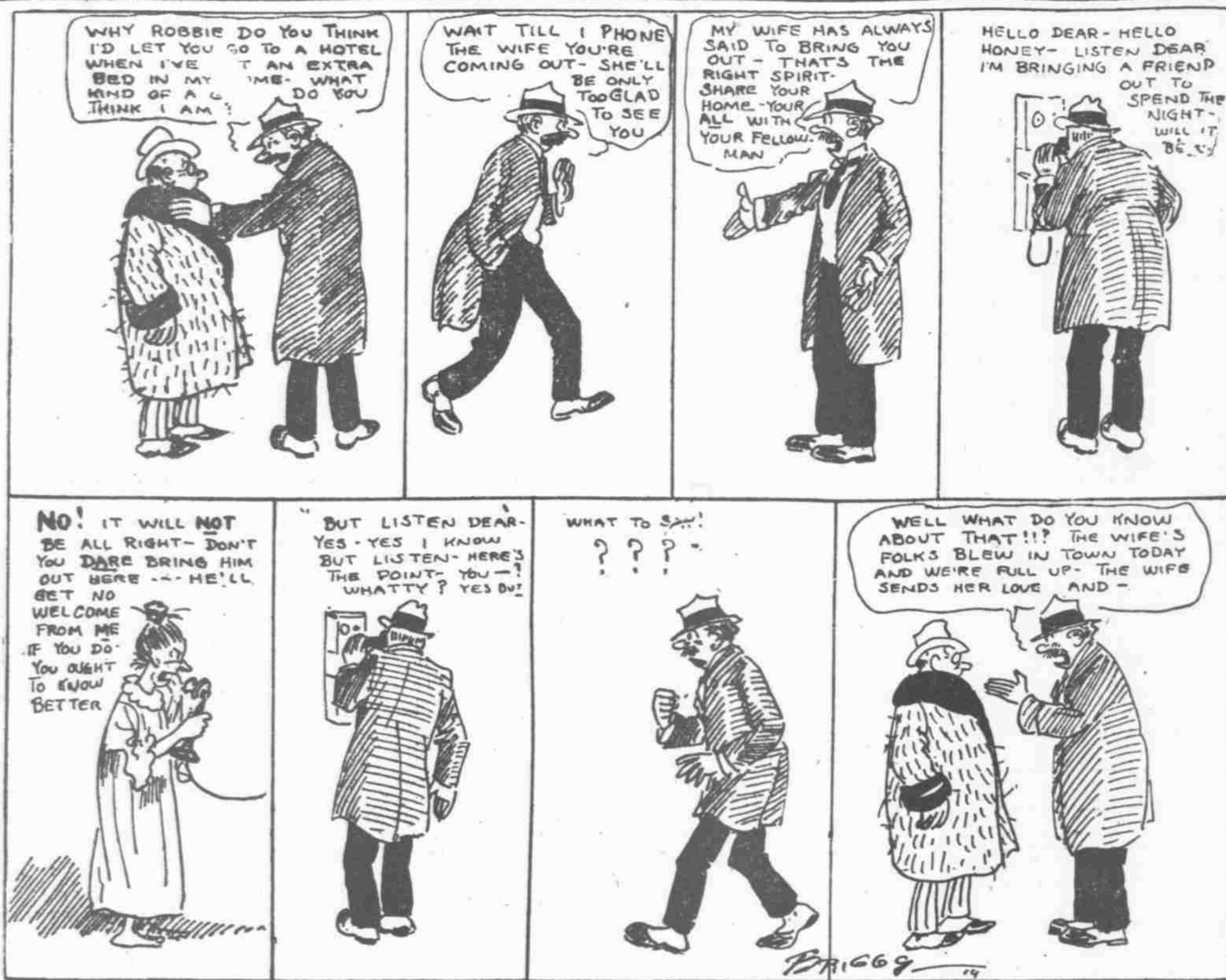
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Oh, Man!

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By Briggs



GREER TELLS OF WHIPPING ORPHANS

(Continued from First Page.)

The Greer bakery and furnished names and ages of the inmates.

The witness admitted that he "shook" the girl.

"That didn't happen up in the girls' room," asked Assistant Corporation Counsel George P. Barse.

"No, sir," he replied.

Asked if Mrs. Greer whipped the girls, he said:

"I've seen her slap the girls and box their ears."

"Did she use the cat-o-nine-tails?" queried the prosecutor.

"I can recall; she might have used it," was the reply.

"In addition to the cat-o-nine-tails, wasn't there a piece of broken machine belt that you sometimes used?" asked Attorney Barse.

"There may have been an old piece of broken belt around the house, though."

Mr. Greer denied in toto charges of several witnesses for the District that he had shown indignities and insults to girls in the bakery.

Tells of Whipping Boy.
He admitted whipping Michael Smith last Thanksgiving. He said the boy called him a bad name; that he went and got the cat-o-nine-tails, which always hung on a convenient nail; that he took the boy into the laundry, laid him across a chair, and whipped him.

Asked how many times he struck the boy, he said:

"About seven or eight times, maybe ten."

He admitted that the boy was in his underwear, preparing to retire.

"He hollered a lot and made quite a do over it and Mrs. Greer came down to see what was the trouble," Mr. Greer said. "I stopped when she came in."

He denied he struck Mrs. Greer with the cat-o-nine-tails, as was testified by several of the District witnesses.

"I have never struck Mrs. Greer in my life," he declared. "We have never had any trouble."

Detailing, under direct examination,

the story of his life, Mr. Greer said he

was born fifty-five years ago in Washington; that he had resided here all of his life; that he went to work when he was sixteen years of age. He retired from active work, he said, in August of last year.

The witness said he was not a baker. The bakery business at his home on Twelfth street is operated by his wife, he told the court.

During the last few months, the witness said, he had spent much of his time on his wife's 125-acre farm in Fairfax and partly in Alexandria counties. The house on the farm is in Fairfax county, he said.

His wife, the witness said, had never been considered a baker, because she used cook stoves for baking home-made cakes. Since the police removed several orphan children from the bakery, a regular baker's oven has been installed, he said, because "it's a great labor saver."

The oven was ordered before the children left, he said.

Does Not Drink, Smoke or Swear.
"Are you a drinking man?" asked Attorney Levi H. David, counsel for the Greers.

"I never drank anything in my life," he replied.

"Smoke?"
"Never used tobacco in any form."

"Are you in the habit of using bad language?"

"No, but maybe I have said 'darn it at times'."

Greer said he frequently was with the girls in his home after his day's work, but that Mrs. Greer was always present.

"Mrs. Greer and I would sit together with the girls on the front porch," he said, "and if one or more of the girls were unusually good, we would take them for an outing in one of our cars."

"Our trips sometimes included Glen Echo, Chevy Chase Lake and the Speedway."

"Did anything improper ever happen in the home that you know of?" his counsel asked.

"Never," he said emphatically.

"Ever hear of such a thing before this case?" he was asked.

"No," he answered.

Called Girls From Landing.
"One or two of the girls have said here that you came up to their rooms when they got up. Is that true?" asked Attorney David.

"Before Christmas, when Mrs. Greer was sick, I went up, but stopped on the landing and said, 'Come on down, it's getting late,'" the witness replied.

The first time he had heard of the criticism of his actions toward the girls, he repeated, was in the present investigation.

Dorothy Harmer was put out of the home some time ago," Mr. Greer said, "because she was very 'sassy' and didn't confine herself to very nice language. I had often asked Mrs. Greer to get rid of her."

"Before she was sent away, did she lodge any complaint against you?" asked his counsel.

"No," he replied.

Asked about the general disposition and temperament of the girl, Greer said: "Sometimes she had bad spells that would last all day."

"I once saw Dorothy put her sister's hair," he said, "and Mrs. Greer had quite a tussle pulling her loose."

Never Struck a Girl.
"Did you ever strike a girl while she was in your home?"

"No."

"Did you ever put your hands on one of them?"

"Yes; Agnes Dunn. She was 'sassy' and I shook her a little. But I did not strike her."

Asked about stories of District witnesses that he had cruelly beaten the boys in the bakery, the witness said:

"I sometimes whipped the boys if they needed it. Six times I forbade their going to the garage. That hurt them worse than a whipping."

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Asked if he had treated any of the

boys cruelly, he said:
"I don't think any of the boys ever had any bruises on them."

"Are you tired of giving up your money, your thought, your attention, and your home to these orphans?" he was asked.

"Yes," he replied. "I have been tired of it for some time."

Mr. Greer said that "We always tried to do the best we could for the children."

Provided Doctor and Dentist.
At all times, the witness said, the children were given the advantages of treatment by a doctor and a dentist; they had their own dressmaker in the home and on occasions they were given automobile rides, picnics, and parties.

Asked about the food, the witness said the children were always well provided for. He said that frequently there was more than they needed, and it was thrown away.

"They ate a great deal more at some meals at my table than my laboring men did on the job," he added.

"Eggs were bought in large quantities at the bakery, he said. Some of them were used in the cakes, others for eating purposes."

He told how he had seen some of the boys "throwing eggs against the wall in the laundry."

"Have you ever known of a boy or a girl to complain about not getting enough to eat?" he was asked.

"No," he answered.

Greer said he had six garages, to accommodate forty-five automobiles.

Boys Taught Auto Repairing.
Several of the boys learned auto repairing in the garage, Mr. Greer said. His own sons, he said, spent much time teaching them the business. Some of them early developed an aptitude for mechanics and have since made good in their line of business.

He was asked about charges made by Mary McKnight, a witness for the District, who claims she was "detained against her will" in the bakery for fourteen years. She connected Mr. Greer's name with that of another girl formerly in the home.

Mr. Greer denied the charge, saying there was "nothing to it."

"Did Mary McKnight ever come to you and tell you such a thing?" Attorney David asked the witness.

"No, sir," he replied.

"Any other girl in that house say such a thing?" queried counsel.

"No, sir."

"Did you ever, at any time, have improper relations with any girl in that house?" Attorney David asked.

"No, sir," he answered, emphatically. "I never heard of such a thing until I came into this courtroom."

Produces Cat-o-Nine-Tails.
Regarding whipping the boy, Michael Smith, Greer said he used "a strap" on him.

"Have you got that strap with you?" asked counsel.

"It is out there in my coat pocket," he replied.

"Well, please get it," commanded the attorney.

The witness left the stand, produced the "strap" and it was offered in evidence.

"The strap" proved to be the cat-o-nine-tails.

"It has been charged that you were cruel to the boys, what about that?" asked the counsel.

"I never did more than whip them with that strap," he answered. "I always kept it in a handy place. That strap has been in my home for a great many years. I have used it on my own boys."

"Did you ever investigate and see if they whip children at the Industrial Home?" asked counsel.

"No, I never investigated," he admitted.

"Did the boys and girls at your home have proper sleeping quarters?"

"They must have. It was hard enough to get them out of bed in the morning."

and does not go to bed until 1 or 2

o'clock in the morning in rush seasons."

"How about her daughter's work?" he was asked.

"She works ten or twelve hours and sometimes longer," he said.

"Those children," he explained, "just worked in spells. They didn't know anything about the business when they came there and Mrs. Greer taught them all they know of it."

At times, the children passed the cake pans from one table to another, and did little things like that."

"Have you tried to be decent and do the right thing by them?" asked counsel.

"Yes, sir," the witness answered.

Mr. Greer said he was present when Mrs. Mina C. Van Winkle and the child labor investigator were at his home to get the children's ages and make an investigation.

Tells of Inspection.
"Did you hear Mrs. Van Winkle speak to Ruth Burns?" he was asked.

"Yes," he replied. "She questioned her about her age and when Ruth said she was sixteen Mrs. Van Winkle said: 'Ruth, you are lying; you are only fifteen. I have your age from four different sources.'"

Greer in answer to a question said that in the last fifteen years, or more, that orphan girls have been in the

bakery he has never called a girl a

liar."

For years, Mr. Greer said, officials of the District had been calling on him and telling him "everything was all right."

Asked whether Mr. Peterson, the labor investigator with Mrs. Van Winkle, made such a statement, he said:

"He said those children had better than he had when he was a boy. He said he had to sleep in a hayloft."

"Did you or Mrs. Greer, on the occasion of your visit, whisper to the children to 'say you are sixteen'?" asked his counsel.

He answered in the negative.

On cross-examination, Mr. Greer said Mrs. Van Winkle was not in the room when Mr. Peterson gave the bakery a clean bill of health.

Was Grocery Employee.
Greer testified that he was employed for about nineteen years at Burchell's, a grocery establishment. Asked why he quit, he said:

"The old gentleman died and the young man (his son) and I had a disagreement."

"Wasn't that disagreement over your accounts?" asked Assistant Corporation Counsel Barse.

"No; he was doing a lot of talking and I left."

"Didn't he ask you to leave?"

"No, he did not."

"He gave you to understand that you could leave, didn't he?" asked Attorney Barse.

"Sir, sir," Greer replied.

On redirect examination, Mr. Greer said he went to his lawyer, who called up the younger Burchell and the matter was dropped.

Attorney Barse inquired at length into Mr. Greer's financial affairs.

He brought out that Mr. and Mrs. Greer own property in the District, the last total assessed valuation of which was \$21,413, besides the \$10,000 farm in Virginia.

No Mortgages On His Property.
When he began to purchase property nearly twenty years ago, Greer said, some of it was purchased on terms. Asked if he still owed money on any of his property, he said:

"All of my property is clear of mortgages. I don't owe a cent on any of it."

Attorney Barse asked Greer a series of questions, based on charges by District witnesses that he had been guilty of immorality in his home. He denied all.

"Did you ever keep a ledger account to see whether the orphans were an expense or a profit?" asked Attorney David, on redirect examination.

Greer said he had kept no such record, but that "Mrs. Greer may keep one."

Herbert J. Linthier, who took the stand for the Greers, said he owed his success in life to the training he received in one of the Greer garages. His instructor in automobile repairing, he said, was John Greer, a son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Greer.

Linthier, for several years an inmate of the Greer bakery, married on September 22, last, one of the girls from the institution.

The witness testified he was now getting \$125 a month driving a truck for the Motor Transport Corps.

Was Always Well-Treated.
Linthier said he was always well treated at the Greer home; that he was well clothed and fed and that never until the present investigation had he ever heard of any charges against Mr. Greer's conduct toward the girls and boys in the home.

On cross-examination, Linthier admitted that some weeks ago he called on Attorney Barse and that after the conference Mr. Barse agreed not to call him as a witness because of the recent death of his wife.

He admitted he was in the office of Mrs. Van Winkle, child welfare agent of the Police Department,

"about Christmas time" with his

wife and Mary McKnight.

He also admitted that he was under salary at the Greers for several years, but had never received the amount he considered due him. He often borrowed money from Mrs. Greer, he said.

"Isn't it a fact that you told me in my office, that you had received no money from the Greers and that you were improperly treated?" asked Attorney Barse.

"I didn't say it in that way," the witness replied.

Admits Telling of Cruelty.
"Isn't it a fact that you said you were cruelly treated and that the cat-o-nine-tails was used on you?"

"Yes, sir," he admitted.

"Isn't it also a fact that you told me of improper relations between Mr. Greer and the girls?" demanded the prosecutor.

"I don't remember telling you that," he answered.

Attorney Barse sought to read into the evidence a statement said to have been made by Linthier's wife to the police investigators shortly before she died.

The attorney said he wanted to show that statements were made by the wife of the witness in his presence and agreed to by him which were "in direct contradiction to the testimony of the witness."

Linthier said he was in the office at the time the statement was given but was "seven feet away and did not hear what was going on."

"Are you deaf?" asked Judge Kathryn Sellers.

"No," he replied.

He admitted he was at the hospital on the night his wife died.

Asked if he was under the influence of intoxicating liquor at this time, he said he was not.

Has Police Record.
He was ill, he said, and had taken some whiskey in a medicinal mixture earlier in the evening.

Three transcripts of police records were produced by Attorney Barse "to show the credibility of the witness," he explained.

One showed Linthier was arrested for larceny on April 23, 1915. He forfeited \$10 collateral.

On September 6, 1918, he forfeited \$5 collateral for violation of a police regulation.

He was twice in Juvenile Court, Attorney Barse showed. On one occasion the charge was withdrawn, on another he was adjudged guilty after he had pleaded not guilty.

The court ruled that, under a special act, Juvenile Court records could not be used against a witness.

Attorney Barse got from the witness an admission that he had not yet received the \$125 a month he claimed on direct examination he was receiving from the Government, but he said, his superior officer had told him "he was up for promotion," and he expected to start drawing the increase.

Linthier's salary, according to his own admission, was \$85 when he drew his last pay.

Promised Pay 14 Years Ago.
"You stated that you were promised a salary at the Greers when you were how old?" asked Attorney Barse.

"Fourteen years ago," the witness said.

"You say you still expect to get that money?" he was asked.

"Yes, sir, I do," witness answered.

On redirect examination Linthier was asked if he knew whether Mrs. Greer had put the money in the bank for him.

"I asked Mrs. Greer two or three years ago to let me see the bank book, but she couldn't find it," he replied.

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